

## REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed 18 July 2005, in connection with the above-identified application (hereinafter, the "Office Action"). The Office Action provided a one-month shortened statutory period in which to respond, ending on 18 August 2005. Submitted herewith is a Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time extending the due date to 18 October 2005. Accordingly, this amendment is timely submitted. Applicant responds through his attorney as follows.

Group	Claims	Description
I	1-11	Compositions comprising fructo-oligosaccharides and a galatco-oligosaccharide;
II	18-25	Method of using a composition

Restriction was required to one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Applications elect Group I, claims 1-11, compositions fructo-oligosaccharides and a galatco-oligosaccharide, subject to the Rejoinder provisions of MPEP 821.04.

Applicant has cancelled claims 18-25 without prejudice.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary M. Lobel  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 51,155

Novartis  
Corporate Intellectual Property  
One Health Plaza, Building 104  
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080  
(862) 778-7954

Date: 12 Dec 2005